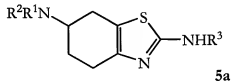


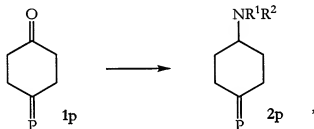
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a 2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-aminobenzothiazole **5a**:



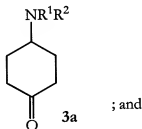
or an enantiomer or a salt thereof, comprising the steps of:

(a) reductively aminating a protected cyclohexandione **1p** with an amine  $R^1R^2NH$  to yield a protected 4-amino-cyclohexanone **2p**:



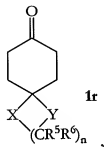
wherein P is a protected ketone functionality, and wherein one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is hydrogen and the other of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is *n*-propyl;

(b) deprotecting the protected 4-amino-cyclohexanone **2p** to yield an unprotected 4-amino-cyclohexanone **3a**:



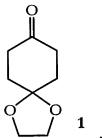
(c) treating the unprotected 4-amino-cyclohexanone **3a** with iodine and a thiourea  $H_2N(C=S)NHR^3$ , wherein  $R^3$  is hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$  alkyl to yield the 2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-aminobenzothiazole **5a** or an enantiomer or a salt thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the protected cyclohexandione **1p** is a cyclic ketal **1r**:



wherein:

- X and Y are independently O, S, NR<sup>7</sup> or Se;
  - n is 2 or 3;
  - R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or alkyl; and
  - R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl.
3. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the protected cyclohexandione **1p** is monoethyleneketal **1**:



4-7. (Cancelled).

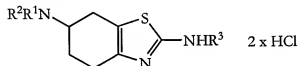
8. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen.

9. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reductive amination of step (a) is carried out with NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>.

10-25. (Cancelled).

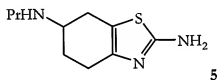
26. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the 2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-aminobenzothiazole **5a** comprises at least 95% of the (R)- or the (S)-enantiomer.

27. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, for the preparation of a 2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-aminobenzothiazole di-hydrochloric acid salt:



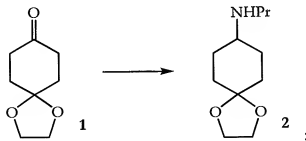
or an enantiomer thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of 2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-(propylamino)-benzothiazole **5**:

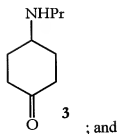


or an enantiomer or a salt thereof, comprising the steps of:

(a) reductively aminating cyclohexandione monoethyleneketal **1** with  $\text{PrNH}_2$  to yield 4-*n*-propylamino-cyclohexanone-ethyleneketal **2**:

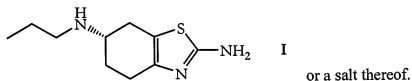


(b) deprotecting 4-*n*-propylamino-cyclohexanone-ethyleneketal **2** to yield 4-*n*-propylamino-cyclohexanone **3**:

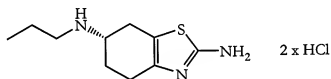


(c) treating 4-*n*-propylamino-cyclohexanone **3** with iodine and thiourea.

29. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 28, for the preparation of (S)-2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-(propylamino)-benzothiazole **I**:



30. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 28, for the preparation of (S)-2-amino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6-(propylamino)-benzothiazole di-hydrochloric acid salt:



31-33. (Cancelled).